Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1875.

THE foreign exports from Philadelphia last week amounted to $680,695.

THE winter in the Northwest is an exceedingly mild one, and although there have been some cold days at St. Paul, there is scarcely any snow.

THE exports from Boston last week amounted to $356,546. The total exports during the year aggregate $32,137,139, against $28,196,281 for the corresponding period of 1874, an increase of $3,930,858.

GOVERNOR DAVIS, of Minnesota, will take strong grounds in his forthcoming message to the Legislature, in favor of a liberal appropriation to the Centennial. There is a growing enthusiasm throughout the entire Northwest on this subject.

CONGRESSMAN MORRISON, of Illinois, Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, was a soldier in the Mexican war, and also served in the Union army during the rebellion, entering the service as Colonel, and not rising above that rank. His abilities are of a very moderate order.

THE comparative statement, just published, of our imports during the last two fiscal years, shows that the total imports in in 1873–74 were valued at $593,039,054, while in 1874–5 they were valued at $543,094,767, a decrease of $49,940,284 during the last as compared with the previous year.

ACCORDING to the New York census returns, just published, that State has 743,078 native voters, and 395,245 naturalized voters. New York city has only 89,907 native to 141,202 naturalized voters. As the *Commercial Advertiser* aptly says, this shows where Democratic majorities are found.

A DECISION has just been rendered by the Commissioner of Patents, to the effect that "the corporate name of a corporation is a trademark from the necessity of the thing." Thus a corporation may record and sustain its own name as a trademark, although under ordinary circumstances the like privilege is denied to firms and individuals.

CONGRESS has adjourned until after the holidays. Thus far nothing practical has been done by the House, the majority not having even made any substantial progress toward unification of sentiment or harmonization of purpose. Never was there a time when the Democrats were so badly crippled for leaders or so much at disadvantage for a plan of action.

A REMARKABLE feat in glass manufacture was accomplished by the Phœnix Works, of La Salle, Ill., last week, the furnace having during that period turned out 44,700 square feet of window glass, averaging nearly fifty-six boxes per blower. This is claimed to exceed the yield of any other furnace of similar capacity in the United States during the same length of time.

THE rural Congressmen of the Democratic party, are playing the mischief. "You blow me up," says FERNANDO WOOD to KERR, "for not keeping 'em in hand; but what can a fellow do with a set of pig-headed bumpkins who, when invited out to dinner, drink water out of their finger-bowls, wipe their noses on their napkins, and then go to bed and blow the gas out?"

THOSE reforms in New York Custom House matters were not instituted a moment too soon. The duty now collected from passengers at that port is greater by a hundred per cent. than ever before. Notwithstanding that this year the volume of travel is greatly below that of last year, there was an increase of receipts from this source of $42,157 90, for the six months beginning April 1 and ending September 30.

IT IS estimated that, if the throng of travel from all parts of the country should be as great as that anticipated by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as likely to come through New York city alone, there will be an increase in the railroad travel next summer to the extent of at least 3,000,000 persons, thus putting into circulation at least $60,000,000 more money than there would be without the Centennial.

THE latest mail advices from England are to the effect that there is great distress among the people, caused by the stagnation of so many leading industries and the generally depressed condition of affairs. Indeed, so dull and grim is the aspect of the immediate future there are people to be found who are heartless enough to wish for the outbreak of a good rousing war. They may be gratified, sooner than they anticipate.

OUR exports of cotton goods to England are beginning to loom up. The October statement of the Bureau of Statistics shows that the exports of uncolored muslins for that month amounted to 1,728,219 yards, valued at $195,621; and of colored 762,856 yards, valued at $90,518. The goods are pronounced by the English as of an unrivaled quality, and they sell rapidly. They have advanced one and a half cents per yard since the exportation has commenced.

THE United States Circuit Court of New York the other day decided, upon a motion by counsel in a certain case to apply the United States test oath to jurors, that the amnesty proclamation of the President under date of December 25, 1868, restored all the civil rights of those comprehended within its terms; and that the requirement of a test oath is in the nature of a punishment for acts thus fully pardoned. The administration of the oath was therefore denied.

THE Commissioner of Internal Revenue has just decided that when a court, under the authority of section 3,339 of Revised Statutes, releases a seized distillery to an intervenor, the fact that taxes are due on spirits manufactured at the distillery by a former occupant and removed without being deposited in a bonded warehouse, as required by law, will not be taken as a ground for refusing to permit the intervenor to operate the distillery during the pending of the proceedings for forfeiture.

THE *Times'* annual review of the business operations of Chicago during the year shows it to have been one of considerable prosperity for her trade and commerce. A less quantity of grain than usual has been marketed, and the shipping interest has suffered from low freights, but there was a gratifying increase in the sales of general merchandise, the trade in provisions, live stock and lumber was unusually active, and the banking institutions are reported to be on a firm and enduring basis.

THE *Bulletin of the American Iron and Steel Association*, noticing the discovery of large beds of iron ore in Utah, says:

> "Large beds of sandstone and fireclay are found in close proximity to the ores, and heavy veins of excellent coal, now being successfully worked, are only three miles distant. An *inexhaustible* supply of charcoal is also obtainable from surrounding forests."

We venture to say that a half dozen good-sized furnaces would exhaust in a very few years all the charcoal that Utah can produce.

THE ship-building interest of Oregon is making rapid strides forward, and promises soon to grow into extensive proportions and give employment to many hundreds of men. Several vessels of large carrying capacity are to be placed in course of construction soon, so as to be in readiness for the wheat crop of 1876. The timber is now being cut and seasoned, and is carefully selected from the best yellow fir. The fastenings are purchased at the lowest cash prices in the East, and sent round the Horn, by which method they are laid down at the yards at a fractional cost only over that paid by Eastern shipbuilders.

THE various House Committees will not, at all events, be compelled to remain idle for want of something to do. There have already been presented nineteen House resolutions, fourteen joint resolutions, some 300 bills, thirty-three miscellaneous documents, and twenty-seven executive documents, including the President's Message, making a total of 374 matters for consideration, besides several contested election cases, and an avalanche of petitions and memorials. No resolutions calling on the President to inform the House what he meant by throttling LEE, capturing Richmond and squelching the rebellion have been offered—as yet.

THE export movement of cotton fabrics from this country to England is still an uppermost topic among Eastern dry goods men, and the interest exhibited seems rather to increase than lessen, since the question is at once suggested, why may we not export woolens as well, and may it not be possible, with the diminishing cost of production, to compete successfully in a much wider range of manufactured products? New York markets have recently filled orders from South America, and samples are being distributed through Vienna, Hamburg, Havre, and other centers of trade. The recent order for 25,000 pieces received in Fall River is the most notable outcome of the agitation, thus far.

THE ONE-TERM AMENDMENT.

The House has before it several propositions to amend the Constitution relative to the election of President, all of which agree in limiting the Presidency to one term. One proposition limits it to four years, another to six years, and a third confers upon the President, when his term expires, the position of Senator for life.

Where there is such a general agreement in the one-term policy, there should be little difficulty in settling the secondary question of the length of the term. We think it would be the true policy to extend the term to six years; but it really matters little whether it be four or six. The essential point is to get a limitation of eligibility incorporated into the Constitution.

The proposition to create the office of Senator for life for the accommodation of ex-Presidents, is more fanciful than practical. There could never be many occupants of the office at the same time, so that it would not involve much danger to the country; but life-offices, in the legislative department, are not in harmony with our form of government, and the introduction of such an element into it would be sure, sooner or latter, to produce dissatisfaction. The Senate is now sufficiently reactionary in its tendency, and it would be imprudent to make it more so. If any popular measure were defeated by the casting vote of a life Senator thus created, the office would certainly incur a severe degree of odiousness. The honor of the Presidency is enough, of itself, for any man; and there is no good reason why we should confer Senatorial honors upon him for life, in addition.

The Whig party, in 1840, adopted the one-term idea as its distinctive principle, and the triumph it won, in that campaign, was won mainly upon that issue. The people, then, were sincerely opposed to more than one term for the Presidency; and although the exigencies of our civil war compelled them to lay that opposition aside in the cases of LINCOLN and GRANT, they are now, as in 1840, in favor of the one-term principle. The House, therefore, will be but following in the wake of public opinion in proposing such an amendment now. The people, through their State Legislatures, will promptly ratify the amendment, as soon as the opportunity is offered.

And the sooner it is offered the better. The Legislatures of most of the States will be in session during the winter, and if Congress acts promptly upon the amendment, it may be adopted and incorporated in the Constitution within the course of a few months. There is but little difference, we fancy, between the two sides of the House, upon the main question involved. The Republican members are all in favor of the one term principle, and the Democrats are not likely to be behind them in zeal on that point. There will be differences of opinion as to the length of the term; but that is a mere incident, and easily settled. Both parties being of one mind upon the main question, there can be no excuse for delay in submitting the amendment to the Legislatures of the several States for approval.

This question has nothing to do, immediately, with the third term folly. It would not apply to the candidates that may be proposed in 1876, but would simply limit the term of each President elected after its adoption. If any party is foolish enough next year to nominate a candidate for President for a third time, there is nothing but its own sense of propriety and policy to hinder it. The only effect of the amendment would be to limit the eligibility of all Presidents hereafter chosen. The proposed amendment, consequently, has nothing to do with the third term question, and comes up to be settled upon its own merits exclusively. Of the wisdom of it there can be no question; and the men who, like Bishop HAVEN, are so solicitous about the "public safety," can provide for it much better by limiting the Presidential term than by extending it indefinitely. We have worried through the first century of our national existence with the peril continually hanging over our heads of the incumbent of the Presidency intriguing constantly for the succession; and we will be wise to begin the second century by remitting that peril to the limbo of defeated dangers.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

A number of private gentlemen, calling themselves by the imposing organic name of "The American Board of Transportation and Commerce," have lately been holding a session at Chicago and airing their views on transportation and commerce. Who appointed this "American Board," or by what right its members speak for any one but themselves, has not been made clear. Their high-sounding name gives them no special authority; and the presumption is that, being self-appointed, they speak only for the select few they are able to gather at their slimly attended meetings.

This unauthorized "Board," then, has gravely informed a listening world that it is not in favor of Government aid to the Texas Pacific Railroad, which leads us to suspect that the Board is a JAY GOULD affair, and speaks mainly for New York and Chicago. It is very strongly in favor of Government expenditures for internal improvements; but it is opposed to any improvements in which its members have no interest. That is about the plain English of the "Board's" position.

If the point is conceded that the national Government has the power to undertake works of internal improvement, to help those in progress and to regulate the traffic on those completed, its duty to do so may also be conceded. The duty is included in the power; and this being conceded, the question of help to any particular enterprise is simply a question of expediency and propriety. The "American Board of Transportation and Commerce" has freely conceded this power, and claimed that the Government should exercise it for the benefit of a particular section of country; and we contend that, if the Government intervenes to help *one* section of the country with cheap transportation, it is bound likewise to intervene for *other* sections. The National Government was not framed for the express benefit of one or two parallels of latitude, but for the whole country, and if it stretches out its helping hand to the East, it must do the same to the West; and if the North claims its assistance, the similar claim of the South cannot be overlooked.

The great project of such people as composed the "American Board of Transportation" is to get the Government to build a four-track road from New York to Chicago or St. Louis, to be run by the national authorities and at cheap rates. Granted that the National Government has the power to do this; granted also that, having the power, it is its duty to use it; by what sort of reasoning can those who ask for such an exercise of national power turn around and say "No!" to a similar request from the people of the South and Southwest for Government aid in constructing the Texas Pacific? Will it be said that the Texas Pacific is a private corporation, and should not be helped? Then let the Government when it is asked to help it, exact a surrender of the private corporation and take the whole work in its own hands. We have no doubt the exaction would be readily complied with.

The whole of this controversy is centered upon the question of *power*. Has the National Government the power to build railroads? If it has, and the "American Board of Transportation" admits that it has, the claim of the people in the region of the Texas Pacific for national assistance in railroad building is as good, at least, as that of any other region of country. To admit the power, and claim its exercise for their own benefit, and then demand a refusal of it for the benefit of others, is exceedingly selfish, mean and old-hunkerish. There are already a half-dozen railroad routes between New York, Chicago and St. Louis, while the people of the the South and the Southwest are suffering from the absolute want of railroad facilities. To say, then, that the Government should help those who have helped and are able to help themselves, and should deny its aid to those who cannot aid themselves, is as unjust as it is illogical. No one section of the country can secure Government interference in railroad building by claiming that interference at the expense of other sections. The power, if it is exercised at all, must be exercised for the good of all, and not for the exclusive benefit of the few.

STRUCK JURIES.

The resort of the counsel for the State, in the TWEED case, to a "struck jury" as the only way left open to secure competent jurors for the trial of that case, suggests a method of relief from the difficulties which have sprung up under the jury system prevalent in Pennsylvania.

They have, it seems, a statute under which "struck juries" can be got, in New York, in specified cases or under specified circumstances, while in Pennsylvania we have no such statutory provision. But the evil of incompetent juries is so common and the desire for escape from our present system is so general that the proper legislation can doubtless be had, if the bar will unite in asking for it.

Formerly our juries were chosen from lists of names selected by the County Commissioners; but this was found, in counties where political majorities were permanently on one side, to lead to the selection of partisan juries exclusively. In Democratic counties, no Republican could get on a jury except by mistake; and in Republican counties, Democrats were subjected to the same ostracism.

To remedy this one-sidedness an act was passed some years since authorizing the election of two Jury Commissioners—one from each party—in each county, and our juries are now selected by the Jury Commissioners thus authorized.

This change in the method of choosing jurors has removed the objection to the old method of selection on purely partisan grounds, but has not improved the character for intelligence and capacity of the men selected; and the complaint is heard from all parts of the State that juries are not what they should be. Especially is this true in cases where questions of mercantile practice are involved. What is wanted in such cases is a jury of experts—men familiar with mercantile calculations and mercantile practice.

To obtain such a jury as this in any case is not possible under our present system, and can be rendered possible only by a resort to the English practice, under which the parties to a suit can agree to the selection of a "struck jury" from the class of men who are familiar with the principles involved in the case at issue. The restrictions on this method of choosing jurors, under the New York statute, are so severe that this remedy is there very rarely employed; but we have no need to follow the rigidity of that example. The TWEED case has proved the wisdom of the remedy; and Pennsylvania, if she incorporates it in her practice, can give it just as much or as little latitude as may be thought prudent. The necessity for the adoption of some such course seems unquestionable.

THE Cincinnati *Gazette*, of the 14th inst., contained the following editorial announcement, double leaded, to give it prominence:

> It is stated on good authority that President Grant is not a candidate for re-election, and would not, under any circumstances, accept a nomination. He does not care to say so formally for reasons that the public will appreciate when they recollect how persistently he has been charged with seeking a third term; but he is not in the field, and the tongue of slander should now be silent. General Grant, upon the termination of his present term of office, will retire to private life, and he will be all the more respected by his countrymen for having set at rest this third term question. The President, the Republican party and the country are to be congratulated upon the decision that has been reached.

Who is this "good authority?" And why could not the President say so, himself, and so put an end to all doubt on the subject? The President did not hesitate, when the Pennsylvania Republican Convention of 1875 passed a resolution on that question, to write a letter to general HARRY WHITE about it. He was not restrained, *then*, by any of the reasons stated above, from saying formally what his position was, and why should he be restrained *now*? It is a great deal better to say what he means, himself, than to say it through others, indirectly, especially when no one knows upon whose authority the statement is made. The nameless authority cited by the Cincinnati *Gazette* may be "good" in *its* judgment; but the public want to know more about it before putting implicit faith in it.

We may be asked why, if the President expressed his purpose in his letter to General WHITE, we insist upon any other expression of his purpose, and we answer, it is because that letter left open a contingency in the occurrence of which he reserved to himself the privilege of accepting a third nomination. He left the matter in doubt and uncertainty, and if he now intends to be understood as declining absolutely, without any contingency or reservation, he is just as free to write another letter to HARRY WHITE to that effect as he was to write the first one. We recognize no "authority" to speak for him as being "good" so long as he is free to speak for himself.

THE Philadelphia *Times* thinks that, inasmuch as the Constitution speaks of the approaching session of the Legislature as an "adjourned *annual* session," it "cannot be an annual session at all if it continues for two years; and if it is not a continuous session of both branches, every measure must be introduced again, regardless of its position at the last adjournment." But it is an "*adjourned*" session, as well as an "annual" one; and an "adjourned" session carries with it necessarily the idea of continuousness. The word "annual" was used in this connection simply to discriminate between the "adjourned sessions" which the Constitution provides for permanently, and the yearly sessions which it permits only until 1878. Congress, as the Constitution requires, holds annual sessions; but as the House of Representatives, like our Legislature, is chosen for two years, the second session has always been considered as a continuance of the first. The use, therefore, of the word "annual," here, does not necessarily imply that the session is not continuous. There may be annual and continuous sessions of the same body; and the fact that the Constitution speaks of them also as "adjourned" sessions, may very properly be construed to mean that the Legislature, chosen for two years, may adjourn each year, to meet at the regular time in the next year, until 1878, and resume business where it left off.

A BELGIAN paper gives an account, which the St. Louis *Republican* translates, of a discovery recently made of a hitherto unrecognized but probably by no means unusual cause of boiler accidents, which is deserving of general attention. It appears that in one of the iron works of that country the tube of a boiler, heated by the waste heat of a puddling furnace, burst suddenly. On examining the rent it was found that, for a certain length along the line of fracture, the boiler plates were corroded, so as to leave a thickness of not more than a single millemetre. The adjacent parts were perfectly sound and untouched, the iron was of good quality, the boiler not an old one, and subject to regular and minute inspection, but the fracture was not in the direct line of the draught. On making the repairs, the hands of the workers became soiled with a substance which would not wash off, and which in the course of a few hours exhibited unmistakable signs of corrosive action. Analysis showed it to consist chiefly of ferrous sulphate, with 11.85 per cent. of free sulphuric acid. The formation of sulphuric acid and its deposition on heat-generating surfaces would therefore seem to be a positive source of risk wherever mineral fuel is employed. Hence it is of importance that all external portions of boilers and boiler-tubing, not completely covered in with brick work, should be made easy of access and be constantly cleaned.

THERE was a very serious decline in the lake fleet business this year as compared with last year. The number of vessels arriving and departing at and from Buffalo during this season was 6,278; in 1874 they were 7,447, and 9,959 in 1872. The aggregate tonnage this year is 3,259,820; in 1874 it was 3,641,019, and 4,886,733 in 1873. The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, however, says the wonder is that the loss is not more marked, and it does not hesitate to say that the lake fleet was never before compelled to do business under so many disadvantages. The average freight rates show the depressed condition of this business even more strongly than the report of the movement of vessels. The average rate on wheat for May was 3.9 cents, and for June but 3 cents. During July a further decline was witnessed, and the average showed that wheat had been transported nearly a thousand miles for 2.8 cents. But the average for August was 3 mills lower than this even; and in September the "hard-pan" was reached at 2.4 cents. In October there was a slight recovery, but the highest rate obtained for wheat by sail during the season of 1875 was only 6.3 cents.

THE New York *Herald* proposes, as a means of securing the support of both parties to RANDALL'S amendment, limiting the Presidency to one term of six years, that the amendment should also contain a provision postponing the next Presidential election from 1876 to 1878. This would have the effect of extending the present term of the President from four to six years.

The *Herald* argues that this concession to the President would satisfy him, and leave his friends free to support the one-term amendment. It might have that effect, and Republicans certainly could have no good reasons for objecting to an extension of the present term of the President; but it is not at all necessary. If the Democrats of the House tender it the Republicans cannot object to it; but, as the one-term amendment of Mr. RANDALL is right in itself, the Republicans can have no good excuse for voting against it, even if this proposed concession is withheld.

We are anxious to see Mr. RANDALL'S amendment adopted, or some other of similar purport, because the public safety requires it, and we see no need for exacting any price for it; but the Democrats who control the House can, if they choose, couple this arrangement with it.

THE hue and cry got up against President GRANT by the Democrats because he appointed a few relatives to office, should have been sufficient to keep that party from the practise of Nepotism, whenever it chanced to get into power. Yet it has not had that effect. The Democratic Auditor General of Pennsylvania has no less than *three* of his relatives in the office with him drawing pay from the State; and in the Democratic House of Representatives at Washington we find its officers putting their relatives into place with as much freedom as if they had never howled "Nepotism!" at the President. The Clerk of the House, Mr. ADAMS, of Kentucky, has put his uncle into a $3,000 place under him; and, in the list of appointments made by FITZHUGH, the rebel Doorkeeper of that body, we find another FITZHUGH, who is presumably a relative of the Doorkeeper. We submit that men who rush thus into Nepotism on the first opportunity should feel enough shame at their own inconsistency to impel them to take back all the hard things they have said, in the last seven years, against the President's appointment of relatives to place.

THE proposition of the Baptists of this country to celebrate the Centennial year by a combined effort in behalf of their institutions of learning—academies, colleges, universities and theological seminaries—is received with much favor. The general plan suggested includes two features, first the securing of a dollar from each man, woman and child connected with every church congregation and Sabbath school in the denomination; and second, the contribution of larger sums from those able to give them. Very considerable progress has, it appears, already been made in the work. In nearly every State the "Dollar Roll" is daily receiving additional names. Large additions have also been made to the endowments of several of the institutions. Two hundred thousand dollars have been added to the endowment of Columbian University, Washington, D. C.; Brown University, Madison University, Rochester University, Denison University, and others, and all the theological seminaries are reported to have felt the quickening influence of the movement.

"THE tone of Southern sentiment is decidedly cheerful. The return of the Democrats to power ushers in the welcome era of sectional reconciliation."—*Courier-Journal.*

And here are a couple of illustrations, taken at random from hundreds of others of similar character, showing the depth and sincerity of that noble inspiration which, according to LAMAR, causes every Democrat in Mississippi to "hunger for that patriotism which makes all men one brotherhood." The Vicksburg *Herald*, a White League organ, says: "The Democratic-Conservative club at Rocky Springs has decided not to rent nor advance supplies to Radical negroes." And the Meridian *Mercury* adds:

> "The miserable bunglers who have put the negro in the Constitution have certainly written themselves down asses all. When we accept 'results of the war' we do not accept the notions of statesmen, but the blunders of unreasoning malice and stupidity, and of course we continue to accept it only so long as we are compelled to."

A DECISION has just been rendered in the United States Circuit Court of New York which, as settling a rule of practice in United States Courts, is of importance to the legal profession everywhere. The New York *Herald* thus summarises the case:

> "It was in the suit of Edwin M. Lewis, trustee in bankruptcy of the estate of J. Cooke & Co., vs. Jay Gould, Henry N. Smith, H. Martin and John B. Bach, an action brought to recover $300,000 in gold, upon an alleged contract made in 1869 to deliver that amount at a certain time. A replication was filed to the answer of the defendants, when the latter made a motion that this be set aside, on the ground that such pleadings were not now authorized by law. It was claimed that by section 914 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, practice in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States was made to conform with that in the Courts of Record of the States in which the former was held. Judge Johnson, in granting the motion, decided that in the State Courts such pleadings are unknown, and cannot, therefore, be admitted in this Circuit Court."

THE New York *Bulletin* follows up its recent startling exhibit of the enormous and steadily increasing burden of taxation in that city, with similar exhibits of the taxation of Boston and other cities, showing that in a greater or less degree abuses in assessments and the reckless contraction of debts, producing high taxation, are proving a most onerous load for the people to carry, depreciating real estate values, and crippling enterprise generally. One of the most pressing needs of the time is the demand for the rectification of these abuses. There is almost everywhere a woeful lack of simplicity in our municipal forms of government. They are cumbrous and old fashioned, like the obsolete stage coach, and quite out of harmony with an age so fruitful of time and labor saving inventions. Every business in the land is conducted on a more or less improved scale, except that of municipal government.

WE PUBLISH the following table showing the rate of taxation upon the hundred dollars of valuation in various cities and towns of Ohio, as an item of valuable information. These towns are a pretty fair average for that State, and the table shows that the range, for 1876, will be from $1 65 to $2 70, upon a valuation that is a very near approximation to the price property would bring in the current condition of the market. This tax rate, it must be understood, is the tax for *all* purposes whatever—State, county, city, poor and school:

Wooster	2.17	Leetonia	2.63
Warren	2.12	Alliance	2.31
Wellsville	1.65	Youngstown	2.74
Canton	2.56	Akron	2.17
Canfield	2.46	Massillon	2.17
Carrollton	1.70	Springfield	1.98
Cadiz	2.70	Steubenville	2.27
Salem	1.73	New Philadelphia	2.30
New Lisbon	2.28		

> "I FOUGHT for the preservation of the Union for four years and lost my health in the weary march and picket watch, and my arm on the field of terrible carnage. I have now been driven from my only source of support—my position at the Capitol—and a man who fought four years to destroy the Union, who lost his health and leg in the contest, has been given my place."

This is the complaint of a brave soldier who has been turned out of a place in the House of Representatives by the rebel majority of its members. It is one to which the people will listen, too; and we are sure the loyal voters of the country will never submit to such treatment of our national heroes. It is a poor country in which patriotism grows to be a political offense.

THE Democrats in Congress say they are going to pass BLAINE'S school amendment to the Constitution which proproses "that no State shall make any law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and that no money raised by taxation in any State for the support of the public schools, or derived from any public funds therefor, or any public lands devoted thereto, shall ever be under the control of any religious sect, and that no money or land so devoted shall be divided among religious sects or denominations," and so take this question out of politics. All right, gentlemen; go ahead. You cannot spite us, any, if you do, and you will spite yourselves if you do not.

THE Indian Protestant Church at Oka, a village near Montreal, having been recently burned by Roman Catholic French Canadians, an indignation meeting was held in the latter city last Saturday to protest against the outrage. The meeting was crowded, many Protestant clergymen and a number of leading citizens being on the platform. A letter was read from the Queen of England sympathizing with the Indians. Resolutions strongly denunciatory of the persecution to which these Indians have been subjected were passed, and a committee was appointed to carry the matter before the Dominion Government, as well as before the courts, and before the Privy Council, if necessary.

THOMPSON, the Dynamite fiend, who coolly plotted an explosion to take place in mid-ocean that would have sent hundreds of people to a sudden death, and whose plans were anticipated by a premature explosion on the wharf at Bremerhaven, turns out to be an American, but one who left his country for his country's good. He was a blockade runner during the war, and his place in history is along side of the pirate SEMMES, and the other naval servants of the Confederacy. America would be glad to disown the fiend, if she could; but, as she cannot, it is some consolation to know that his place among our people was not one in which any body feels the slightest spark of pride.

DURING the discussion of the Louisiana question in the Senate, THURMAN, BAYARD and other Democratic Senators, insisted that the Senate *could* go behind the action of a Legislature, of a Returning Board, of a Governor, and examine into everything that was done by Republicans; but now in Mississippi, the Democrats having triumphed, these same men have discovered that the Federal Constitution has estopped all such inquiries. Senator MORTON pointed out this discrepancy to Mr. THURMAN, the other day, but that Senator had cheek enough to say, like another over-cunning gentleman once caught in the same way, that "circumstances alter cases."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Hard times. Even the days are at their very shortest.

The Duke of Edinburgh is writing a comic opera in three acts.

Present-givers should put as much of themselves as possible into their gifts.

The universal divinity. St. Nicholas is his name, and all the civilized world honors him.

An Illinois town boasts of a girl with three arms. She should have all her quarrels just.

Among the California exhibits at the Centennial will be a building constructed of pine cones.

Franklin, Ohio, must be a thrifty place. A woman aged seventy-five lately gave birth to a child there.

Ex-United States Senator Richardson, of Illinois, is seriously ill. He was attacked by paralysis Thursday night.

Mrs. One-Who-Holds-the-Lodge-Pole-With-Hands was before a Dakota grand jury as a witness the other day.

It is intimated that Pere Hyacinthe is going to abandon Catholicism and preach to a Boston Protestant society.

The Chicago *Times* finds its' an easy thing to say: "The Pope is up to several ounces of pure snuff every day."

Joyce is getting on. He has been already promoted to the monitorship of a tier of cells in the Missouri Penitentiary.

Swinburne has written a play on the Greek model, entitled "Erechtheus," which will be published in London this week.

A paper wagon body was last week protected by a reissue patent, and also a stiff paper vessel made with dovetail joints.

According to Professor Proctor, when our planet is dead, Jupiter, the sun, and sundry other of the planetary world will commence life.

The debt of California is only $4,201,656, a mere bagatelle for so prosperous a State. The assessed valuation of property is $611,500,000.

An Iowa man has just built the smallest steam engine on record. It weighs one pennyweight and seventeen grains and runs smoothly.

The Inman Steamship Company are reported to have decided to establish a regular line of steamers between Philadelphia and Liverpool.

General Babcock was arrested by his father-in-law, Mr. Campbell, who is the United States Marshal for the Northern district of Illinois.

The latest Centennial project is the organization of a transatlantic line of steamers to run between New York and the principal European ports.

The statistical returns of Champain county, Ohio, state that *twelve men* and twenty women died in childbirth in that county during the past year.

A new export. The *Shoe and Leather Reporter* says: "Within a few days there have been sales of wax and grain upper leather to go across the water.

Not a bad idea. A party of Michiganders intend to ship a building and furniture by rail to Philadelphia for their own use and occupancy during the Centennial.

Admirers of Shelley may rejoice. It is stated that papers will shortly be published showing that the so-called desertion of his first wife was in no sense his fault.

Figuring for brain food. "The *Advertiser* at Hot Springs, says the Prescott *Banner*, 'is fond of cat-fish, and propose to take said fish for subscription. 'In like manner so will we.'"

A New York chemist has discovered a new coal tar color which promises to become of importance. It yields shades almost exactly like those of cochineal and almost as fast.

The deposits of the Maine savings banks exceed those of the national banks by $7,500,000, and there has been an increase in deposits during the year ending November 1, of $1,021,350.

Pulmonary consumption is now successfully treated by making an incision through the wall of the chest and drawing off the pus with a syringe, and afterward washing out the ulcers with weak carbolic acid.

A good plan. The students of Michigan University have hired a short-hand reporter to take the notes for them at each lecture in the forenoon, which are written out and printed in the afternoon of the same day.

Wyoming Territory is in a very satisfactory condition. There is no public debt, the treasury has on hand a snug sum, and the assessed value of property is nearly $9,000,000, or almost double what it was two years ago.

The returns at the Tombs Police Court, New York, last Saturday morning, presented an unprecedented feature. There was not a single case of grand or petit larceny, felony, assault and battery, or misdemeanor reported as having occurred during the night.

PERSONAL.

The recovery of the eminent jurist, Charles O'Conor, which is now reported as being no longer in doubt, will be one of the most remarkable cures on record.

There is talk about inviting the Duke of Edinburgh and his wife—the son of Queen Victoria and daughter of the Czar of Russia—to come over to our Exhibition, next year. They are said to be in a mood for travel, and very amiable towards Americans.

Colonel John Hay has been appointed by the United States Centennial Commission at Philadelphia, to deliver on the 2d of July next an oration on the life and character of Richard Livingston, a prominent signer of the Declaration of American Independence.

There is a maiden of eighty-two at Taunton, Mass., who has never seen a train of cars, dresses in centennial fashions, reads her Bible by tallow dips, keeps warm by the side of a monster fire-place, and has not called on her neighbor in five years. She is going to the Centennial, however.

Professor F. A. Walker of Yale College, late superintendent of the census, has been selected as a sort of general chairman of all the judges or committees of award of the Centennial Exhibition, with the duty of supervising and editing the final volume of reports. It is a very important place, and he is a very proper person to fill it.

Hon. James Birney, appointed to the vacant ministry of The Hague, is a son of James G. Birney, of Abolition days, and brother of General D. B. Birney, of war fame. He is a wealthy resident of Bay City, Mich., and has held a number of prominent positions in that State, including the office of Circuit Judge, Lieutenant Governor and member of the State Constitutional Convention.

The Supreme Court of New York was the scene of an exciting contest, a few days ago, between the mother of a child and a hired nurse. The mother had given her child to a German woman to nurse, and when she asked for its return, the nurse had become so much attached to it that she refused to surrender it. A writ of attachment was issued, and the nurse brought into court. The moment the nurse appeared with the child, the mother ran to her and pulled the child out of her arms. The other woman seized the child's legs and tugged at them; both women screaming with all their might. The court officers separated them, and the mother rushed out of court with her prize. The nurse was then carried out in a fit of hysterics.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Cincinnati *Times* thinks that owing to the defeat of Randall and the probable packing of the Committee of Ways and Means in opposition to protection that Pennsylvania will celebrate the Centennial with a rousing Republican majority. There is no doubt of it!

The Democratic members of the Legislature from this city met last night at the office of John E. Faunce, to consider the character of the coming session. The Democratic House declared the session continuous, but the Republican Senate takes the ground that this will be a new session. After an excited time it was agreed best to adopt the Senate view. This will require the reintroduction of all bills lying over, with their advertisement and a new organization of the House. An effort will be made to replace Patterson, the blundering scholastic Speaker, with one who won't get the Democracy in so many scrapes.—*Philadelphia Day.*

General.

What has become of all the "war Democrats" in Congress?—*Pittsburgh* COMMERCIAL.

They are there—sixty-nine of 'em. They fought, too, but in gray uniforms.—*Buffalo Express.*

If Bishop Haven isn't a better bishop than he is a politician, he had better retire from the business. His third term speech was in bad taste, and not in accordance with Republican sentiment.—*Dayton Journal.*

Of the twenty-six who have held the Speakership of Congress, only six are now living, namely: Hunter, Winthrop, Banks, Grow, Colfax and Blaine. Hunter is State Treasurer of Virginia, Banks and Blaine are in Congress, and the others are in private life.

The editor of the *Sunday National Intelligencer*, which came out for the third term last week, has been appointed to a clerkship in one of the departments. It must be truly gratifying to see unselfish patriots taken care of in that way.—*Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.*

In the municipal elections in Massachusetts on the 14th inst., the Republicans carried every ward of Newburyport; the Independent ticket was elected in Worcester, and in Springfield the Republicans elected the Mayor, seven out of eight aldermen and a large majority of the City Council. The Republicans also carried all the wards but one in Keene, N. H.

The Whitehall *Times*, a Democratic paper published in the State of New York, pays the following tribute to the Democratic party: "There is a portion of the voters of every town that hold off on election day until the last moment, expecting pay for their votes; that a large portion of this vote is naturally Democratic, and that therefore, to keep them straight, Democrats have been obliged to pay them for voting."

Of the thirty-three Representatives voting no on Mr. Holman's anti-subsidy resolution, twenty-two were Democrats and eleven Republicans. Of the whole number, seven came from Virginia, four from Texas, three each from North Carolina and Kentucky, four from Pennsylvania, two from Minnesota, two from Tennessee, two from Mississippi, two from Louisiana, two from Missouri, one from Arkansas and one from South Carolina. Twenty-seven came from the South, four from the East and two from the West.

The New York *Tribune* considers that "the Republican party is in a critical condition." We are not able to perceive that such is the case. It carried almost every State in which there was an election last fall, and as the Democrats in the House of Representatives are letting their Southern ex-rebel brethren carry everything with a high hand, it seems quite likely that the Republican party will win again, next fall, upon a platform of sound financial principles, such as the Democracy have repudiated.—*Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.*

If the Methodists at that meeting in Boston were unanimous for the third term for Grant, they are not in other parts of the country. We know of many Republican members of that church, as well as many of other denominations, who will not vote again for Grant. His nomination would cause a split in the Republican ranks, in fact, the winding up of the history of the grand old party that so proudly stood by the Government and saved it from destruction by the proslavery Democratic rebellion. No, no; let us have a statesman of ability, like Blaine or Bristow—for the people will never elect Grant, or any other man, three times to the Presidency, with the example of the Father of his Country before them.—*Hollidaysburg Register.*

The Forty-fourth Congress will have one unique case of contested election to decide. It may be summarized as a case of cheek, colossal cheek, enough to equip a regiment of army mules and then more than supply Barney Caulfield, of Bridgeport. Its possessor is Augustus M. Lowry, who lives in the Thirty-second district of New York. At the last election of Congressmen, the vote of this distaict stood: Norton, 10,770; Cary, 9,139; Lowry, 5. This shows 19,909 votes against Lowry to 5 for him; but he modestly claims the seat on the ground that he was the only person voted for as "Representative in the *Forty-fourth* Congress," and that therefore only his five ballots should be counted. It is a pity that Barnum has gone out of the show business. He would certainly have secured Mr. Lowry as an unique curosity.

One of the duties with which the Democratic House of Representatives will charge itself with this winter is the investigation of anything connected with the administration of the Government which a Democrat chooses to suspect of corruption. The present eagerness of three or four-score rebels, who ten years ago were fighting to destroy the Government, to save the country from ruin now by investigating the acts of an administration at the head of which is the man who saved the nation from rebel hate, is somewhat remarkable. We may be excused for declining to accept it as an evidence of extraordinary patriotism. However, an enemy will detect faults more readily than a friend, and if there are gross abuses they ought to be corrected; so there can be no objection to the rebel patriots having the fullest liberty to proceed.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

The New York *Times* publishes letters giving some interesting details of the political situation in the two States (Connecticut and New Hampshire) in which the first elections of the Presidential year will take place next spring, and showing that steps are being taken to bring into action the full force of the Republican party. In Connecticut there is some talk of nominating Postmaster General Jewell for Governor, but with no probability that he will give up his present position. In New Hampshire the contest is likely to be close, with the present State officers renominated. The Connecticut Legislature will confirm Mr. English in the Senate, Mr. Barnum, a wealthy absentee and do-nothing now in the House, having concluded to restrain his aspirations for the present. The present Governor will probably be renominated by the Democrats, but another State election will have to be held in the autumn, under the amended Constitution.

STATE NEWS.

The Wilson obsequies cost the city of Philadelphia $7,000.

Reading's school treasurer has just celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday.

Jonathan Roberts, a New Jersey spiritualist, has sued the Philadelphia *Times* for libel.

General A. H. Coffroth has bought the Somerset *Democrat* from John J. Hoffman.

Catharine Bloom, a well known teacher in the Moravian seminary for young ladies at Bethlehem, died recently at the age of ninety years. She was a teacher in the seminary thirty-three years.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company recently purchased property in Norristown with a view of erecting a new and suitable depot, paying therefor $300,000. The Norristown track will be extended to Perkimon junction.

A cup of coffee is not generally looked upon as dangerous; but at Altoona, the other day, a child upset one and scalded its arm and side, and the scalding caused the youngster's death. It was an infant, son of Henry Cornelius.

York borough is a great resort for tramps. On Friday night forty-two applied at the watch house for lodgings. During the night six of the band were arrested on a charge of building a fire of railroad bridge timber along the Harrisburg Railroad.

James Cox, a boatman from Harrisburg, was killed at Glen Cove lock, on the tide water canal below Wrightsville, a few days ago. As the boat was entering the lock he fell between the boat and the lock, and was so seriously injured as to cause his death a short time after the accident occurred.

At a meeting of the Philadelphia Board of Public Education, on the 14th inst., a communication was received from an organization calling itself the "Liberal League," petitioning the Board to prohibit the use of the Bible in the public schools. The subject, after discussion, was tabled by an almost unanimous vote.

The French and other foreign aid furnished us to carry on our War of Independence is popularly supposed not to have been compensated for, but the New York *World* shows that beside the $11,250,000 we paid for Louisiana, we paid in liquidation of our foreign revolutionary obligations the following sums:

French farmers general loan	$ 153,688 89
French loan of 18,000,000 livres	3,267,000 00
Spanish loan of 1781	174,017 13
French 10,000,000 livres loan	1,815,000 00
French 6,000,000 loan	1,089,000 00
Balance of supplies due France	24,332 86
Dutch loan (5,000,000 florins) of 1872	2,000,000 00
Dutch loan of 1784	800,000 00
Debt due foreign officers	186,988 78
Interest on foreign loans	1,771,496 90
In all	$11,095,535 78

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

Speculations as to the Tactics of the Two Parties During the Present Session—No One to Lead the Democracy—Probabilities and Possibilities.

[Washington Cor. of Baltimore American.]

Two contending armies within short range could hardly watch the movements of each other with more solicitude than do now the opposing political factions in the House of Representatives. Distrust seems to manifest itself among the rank and file of both. This brings to the leaders that moral trepidation which must ensue when they have lost faith in their forces.

Pre-eminently the present session in Congress is in a large measure to settle the Presidential campaign. It is no time to make false moves. The people, always awake in their interests, are keeping zealous vigil over the doings of their representatives, and many are ready to give support to the party which promises to afford the greatest amount of relief to the distressed industries of the country.

In organization the Republicans in the House are almost perfect. They present first a united front on all questions of public policy. There is a determination to stand by one another. It is this cohesive power with which they expect to accomplish great results. Then, again, the party leaders are skilled, watchful, and experienced. With Blaine as a field marshal, seconded by such lieutenants as Garfield, Hoar, Wheeler and others, no wonder the majority fear the lesser number, even on the threshold of a promised active session.

On the other hand, the Democrats are at sea. True, they bring to their support many old and experienced members. But they carry also a load of drift-wood in the new ones. It is this latter element which their leaders fear. While the majority of them may be willing to act as automatons at the behest of their elders in legislative experience, it is not safe to assume that they can muzzle the mouths of all. Such men as Hill, of Georgia, John Young Brown, of Kentucky, and others of that school, have long been awaiting the very opportunity now presented to give vent to feelings for years pent up within them. They can hardly be controlled. It will take more than the good offerings of Lamar, of Mississippi, to neutralize the damaging utterances expected from the hot-spurs.

The Democrats, too, have no real leader. Randall can extricate them when one to assume the aggressive is required. He can make an attack with damaging force. He can hardly be the one to rely on to repeal it. Wood displayed his weakness as a tactician on the first day of the session in the Louisiana business; even his party decided against him, and hence he must stand aside. Holman is too slow, too captious, and withal chronically a growler. Cox is given to too much levity to do the heavy business. Swann has neither the voice nor the inclination to lead. Among the one hundred and seventy-six Democrats there is really no one to take the first place. But even if there was it is questionable whether the members would rally under him. It will take more than one session to break in one hundred inexperienced colts. The very differences which take wide range on the financial question alone may strand the party early in the session; and one of the very first questions upon which the Republicans will force them on the record will be this.

The distrust among the Republicans arises in another direction. They lack nothing in leadership. In Blaine they have a tower of strength; any tactics which he displays as an individual member on questions of public policy, even though precipitated upon the House, will meet with a unanimous response from his party. They will act as a unit.

The difficulty with the party is how far will they support the opposition in ordering the multitude of investigations threatened. In those they deem essential, even the Democrats will be surprised at the cooperation which will be accorded them. That within the party which needs reform will be met with no opposition from the party in accomplishing it. In any movements made by the Democrats looking to the purification of the offices under the Department of Justice in the South no opposition need be expected, nor, indeed, to any like reform. But when the majority, for the mere purpose of throwing out a drag-net, order indiscriminately the production of papers and the attendance of persons to satisfy an ill-grounded suspicion of something wrong, they must expect resistance. The Democrats expect to make capital by going into what they assert to be the dark and mysterious means used in the appointment of the Syndicate. They hope also to add to whatever there is of odium by the whisky fraud exposure upon General Babcock, in an attempt to prove him a member of Hallett Kilbourn's District real estate pool. Whether they fail or succeed in this, they will go further and again reopen the District investigation, with special reference to the scandalous measurements made under that officer's administration, and for which somebody is clearly responsible and should be punished.

Back of this investigation there is a higher game than a Colonel of Engineers that they hope to bag. Through the operations of the Syndicate the attempt is to be made to smirch the name of Bristow, now looming up prominently as a possible Presidential candidate. With Babcock's operations they hope to drag in the President.

Another movement will be to make the Postoffice Department absolutely self-supporting. What Jewell failed to accomplish in a District of Columbia Court—the breaking up of the system of straw bids for postroutes, and the punishment of those already guilty—is hoped to be through an investigation. And, again, in this case the Republicans yield a hearty support. They will not only second their political opponents in an effort to this end honestly directed, but will afford them aid through facts and statistics, which Governor Jewell himself will gladly furnish. With an honest system of bids, and a careful and economical administration, the Department can be made self-supporting, and no one seeks to make it so more than its present administrative officer.

I mention the matter of investigations as one which excites some distrust with the rank and file, as to how their leaders will endeavor to conduct them. But in the midst of all the Presidential capital making which is expected, the third term business enters as the prime element, calculated to sow the seeds of discord. With this question settled the phalanx of the Republican party is solid and immovable. Still agitated, it is liable before the session closes to be diffused.

There is no denying the fact that Mr. Blaine's aspirations for the Presidency are as keen as ever. What was deemed almost fatal to his chances one year ago is judged differently now. The success of the Democracy in securing the House places him in a position better calculated to show his party to how much gratitude he is entitled. He is looked upon as the Moses by whom and through whose efforts the minority expect to repel any attacks which are certain to be made from the other side. The very force of circumstances which has placed him in this position, give him an opportunity for better gaining the current of popular favor, than hammering down with a bone gavel noisy Democrats and expounding parliamentary law.

And now another weak point of the Democrats: What they gained in party prestige by the elevation of Michael C. Kerr to the Speaker's chair must be apparent to them is neutralized by the physical incapacities of the man to administer its duties. He has as yet displayed no aptitude for the place. His voice can scarcely be heard over the chamber, even with ordinary decorum. How he is to rule the House when the exciting scenes of the session set in is hard to divine. The Speaker's gavel is not a very effective weapon in the hands of a sick man.

* * *

Shaking the Carpet.

A Connecticut paper says: Shaking a carpet is a feature of house cleaning which thoroughly enlists the attention of the man of the house. It is done after dinner. The reason the woman selects this time is because he is dressed, and has to go back to business again without a chance to change his clothes. He carries the carpet out doors. It is not rolled up; it is a wad shape, and he gathers it up in his arms and starts for the door, with one end of the carpet dragging between his feet. He scorns to stoop and roll it up. He has got his arms full. It presses into his bosom and leaves rifts of sand and grit on his shirt front; it bulges into his face—hot and dusty—and fills his mouth and nose and eyes; then the long end gets under one foot as he is going down the back stoop, and the other foot mounts up the breadth, and he stumbles, but catches himself, and prevents falling to the ground on his face by deliberately yet blindly jumping off the stoop. He finally gets the carpet on the line. It is very warm. There is a breeze from the west. He steps on the west side of the carpet and hits it a lick with a stick. Instantly the wind turns sharp around to the east, and he is engulfed in dust. He darts around to the east side and hits it another lick. The wind veers around to the west simultaneously, and he is plunged in a sneezing fit which seriously threatens to dislocate his neck. Then he pauses and looks around uneasily. He sees that a carpet has the same effect on the wind as a sieve full of coal ashes, and he doesn't understand it. He gets a clothes pole and stands around at the north end and hits the carpet a terrible rap. The wind promptly sails around to the south, and catches him full in the face with a pint of dust before the pole has fairly left the carpet. He doesn't stop to reason now. He would be a jackass if he did. He grasps the pole with all his might and madly smashes it against the carpet, and dances around the line, and coughs, and sneezes, and swears. After that it is pulled down, and the hired girl, with the strength of an ox, takes hold of an end with him, and they proceed to shake it. His hands are in blisters across the palms, and his fingers, aching with the grasp on the pole, can seem to find no hold on the woof and warp. At every other shake they glide off, starting the nails, and causing his arms to tingle clear to the elbows. And every time he picks up that carpet he does it with renewed energy and a weaker backbone. The most we can hope for a man in this position is that he is not a deacon of a church, and the hired girl a member of it.

Bayard Taylor claims to have discovered the source of the Nile in a poem, which he quoted at the late meeting of the American Geographical Society. It should have a rhythmic flow.

FROM ST. PAUL, MINN.

Counterfeiter Convicted and Sentenced—Work Done by the Secret Service Officers During the Past Year.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

ST. PAUL, MINN., December 18, 1875.

The trial of George Woolsey and Samuel Piser, who were arrested here last summer, for having in their possession counterfeit plates and manufacturing counterfeit national bank bills, was concluded yesterday afternoon and given to the jury. As is usual in defending villains, the counsel of the defense took the ground that the defendants were led into it by one George Woods, and duped into the commission of the offense by the officers of the Secret Service, in order to give honor and *eclat* to their force. With the most brazen-faced effrontery, the counsel for the defense held up his clients as green and inexperienced country boys, who have never left their mother's apron strings, and through Woods' trickery against them were brought to St. Paul and there kept house for Woods, while he manufactured the money. On the trial, however, it transpired that Woolsey had been in the penitentiary for horse-stealing, and that he had been for years the intimate associate of the Ballards; and on the Ballard gang being broken up by the Secret Service, their property, including the plates in Woolsey's possession at the time of his arrest, were part of those which the Ballards had used.

The charge of Judge Nelson bore heavily on the prisoners, and he plainly told the jury that the plea that the Secret Service officers had used one of the counterfeit gang to detect and hand over the rest, was a weak subterfuge, as it was not expected that the Government could get honest men into the secrets of rogues; but officers must be permitted to ferret out crime in their own way. The counsel for the Government, however, did not insist on the conviction of Piser, as he was evidently only in the crowd as a day laborer, and he was consequently acquitted, while Woolsy was convicted and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

The trial has created considerable excitement, and, strange as it may appear, the rogues had considerable outside help, which I think was worked up by their confederates. That they have confederates who were to get the money after being manufactured, there is no doubt, and you could see their tracks at every step in the trial.

The Secret Service, under Chief Elmer Washburne and his Assistant Benson, has been doing some noble work during the past nine months, having sent to the various penitentiaries over 150 counterfeiters, captured forty sets of plates of various denominations, over $200,000 of money so close an imitation of the genuine that $150,000 more had been redeemed by the Treasury Department as genuine, and beside this, within the last month a large number more have been captured, who remain to be tried. In the arrest of Driggs and Ben Boyd alone $150,000 was captured in counterfeit notes.

The Secret Service, under the present management, has done very effective service, and take all connected with the force, a more able, gentlemanly and honorable set of men is hard to find; and while it is kept in present hands the interests of the people are safe, and the two thousand four hundred national banks, with their circulation, will be protected. PAYSON.

* * *

What Ugly Toes Women Have.

[From the Cincinnati Commercial.]

Canova chose five hundred beautiful women from whom to model his Venus, and among them all could not find a decent set of toes. If he lived now-a-days what luck would he have under the dainty little buttoned boots, with their sharp-pointed heels?

As soon as the helpless baby can put its foot on the ground, and before it can complain in words, shoes are put on it by which the width of the toes is contracted fully half an inch; and usually a stiff counter is ordered in the heel, with some vague idea of "strengthening" the ankle." From that time, no matter how watchful or sensible its parents may be in other respects these instruments of torture always constitute part of its dress. The toes are forced into a narrower space, year by year, "to give a good shape to the foot," until they overlap and knot and knob themselves over with incipient corns and bunions. Then the heel is lifted from the ground by artificial means, and thus the action of the calf muscles is hindered and the elastic cartilage of the whole foot is stiffened at the earliest and most tender period of its growth.

The results are a total lack of elasticity in the step and carriage, and a foot inevitably distorted. American women are noted for their cramped and mincing walk. Southern children are more fortunate in this matter than those in the North, as it is customary, even in the wealthiest classes, to let their feet go uncovered until the age of six.

Mothers in the North are not wholly to blame, however, as the climate requires that the feet shall be covered, and it is almost impossible, even in New York, to find shoes properly made for children, unless a last is ordered for the foot. As a new last would be required every month or so, very few parents are able to give the watchfulness and money required; but, if the proper shape were insisted upon by those buying shoes, dealers would quickly furnish them.

* * *

London Communities.

A correspondent of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* says: London is a curious aggregation of communities, each dwelling in a city of its own, and each striving to intrench itself behind an impenetrable wall of social prejudices. An experienced Londoner can tell with tolerable certainty to what caste a man belongs by knowing where he lives. It would be difficult to map out the exact boundaries of the rival camps, but Becky Sharp knows perfectly well the social status of Mrs. Veneering when she discovers that the dwelling of the latter is in Bloomsbury, while the stock broker who inhabits a villa at Norwood views his neighbor with suspicion who has lately removed from Hackney. The various districts are generally perfect cities in miniature, each with its business center, from which radiate the dwelling portions of the neighborhood. Nothing gives so striking an impression of the vast size of London as when, after traveling in almost any direction from St. Paul's and passing through street after street lined with dwelling-houses, without a store of any kind in sight, just as one might suppose himself on the verge of the open country to come suddenly upon the noise and bustle of a neighborhood given up to business. There is nothing of a suburban aspect about the stores, which, to all appearances, might have been transported from the most central portion of the metropolis. Another mile of travel through streets bordered by pleasant gardens and another nucleus is reached, and the experience is repeated until it seems as if the interminable city would never be left behind. The reason of this widespread distribution is that as London has outgrown its original boundaries it has gradually absorbed the outlying villages and while nothing remains to mark their dividing lines local requirements have promoted the growth of local trade and the original village stores have multiplied until they have become thriving business settlements, isolated but complete.

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TREES, TREES, TREES

We are now offering for sale the following Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Grapevines, Shrubs, Roses, Green House and Bedding Plants at following low prices, now at the grounds, Mount Lebanon Cemetery, three miles south of the city of Pittsburgh, on the old Washington road: 30,000 5-year-old Apple Trees, at $15 ₩ 100; 30,000 4-year-old Apple Trees, at $15 ₩ 100; 30,000 3-year-old Apple Trees, at $15 ₩ 100; 15,000 2-year-old Peach Trees, at $15 ₩ 100; 12,000 1-year-old Peach Trees, at $12 50 ₩ 100; 15,000 2 and 3-year-old Cherry Trees, at $30 ₩ 100; 5,000 2 and 3-year-old standard Pear Trees, at $50 ₩ 100; 2,000 2 and 3-year-old Dwarf Pear Trees, $40 ₩ 100; 1,000 2-year-old Plum Trees, at $40 ₩ 100; 40,000 Ornamental Trees. We have now issued a new Catalogue for the Spring delivery. Call or send by mail for descriptive list. Address 129 Liberty street, Pittsburgh. HENRY BOCKSTOCE, Supt.

12 ACRES OF LAND
IN LOTS OF ONE ACRE EACH,
FOR SALE.

The undersigned, Executor of the Estate of JAMES N. McDONALD, deceased, will sell 12 Lots of Land, containing one Acre each, the property of said deceased, situate about one-half mile from Dawson Station, on the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad. This Land is of good quality, lies well, and each acre fronting on the public road leading to Dawson Station. Terms—$100 per single acre, or $900 for the whole, payable on or before the 1st of April next. This is a rare chance for any person or persons wishing to go into the fruit or gardening business, as it is within one mile of the great Coal and Coke Region. HENRY GALLEY, Executor, P. O. address, Dawson Station, Fayette county, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE FOR FARMS.
HOTEL, worth $6,000, at Dravosburg, Allegheny county, Pa.
DWELLING, worth $2,500, at Alliance, Ohio.
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FARM, worth $50,000, on Ohio river, can be had in exchange for City Property.
Several hundred Virginia and Pennsylvania farms for sale, &c., at this Agency. Apply to J. H. STEVENSON, Attorney at Law, 198 Penn avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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